AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1 - 28. (Cancelled)

29. (Currently Amended) A pressure activated valve for medical applications, comprising:

a housing; and

a resilient flow control membrane disposed within the housing, said flow control membrane comprising:

a first membrane portion and an annular base member stacked upon said first membrane portion, said first membrane portion comprising a plurality of slits extending therethrough,

wherein each of said plurality of slits is curved and opens when subjected to a pressure of at least a predetermined threshold level.

30. (Currently Amended) A pressure activated valve according to claim 29, further comprising a membrane retention portion of the housing, said membrane retention portion being adapted to apply a retentive compression force to the ~~seating portion~~first membrane portion and the annular base member.

31. (Currently Amended) A pressure activated valve according to claim 29, further comprising a layer of adhesive disposed between the first membrane portion and the base member.

32. (Currently Amended) A pressure activated valve according to claim 29, wherein the first membrane portion has a thickness of no more than 0.035 in.

33. (Currently Amended) A pressure activated valve according to claim 29, wherein a thickness of the first membrane portion is between 0.005 and 0.100 inches.

34. (Currently Amended) A pressure activated valve according to claim 29, wherein the combined thickness of the annular base member and the first membrane portion is between 1 and 20 times a thickness of the first membrane portion.

35. (New) A pressure activated valve according to claim 29, wherein the annular base member and the first membrane portion comprise the same material.

36. (New) A pressure activated valve according to claim 29, wherein the annular base member and the first membrane portion comprise silicone.

37. (New) A pressure activated valve according to claim 29, wherein the annular base member and the first membrane portion are integrally formed as a single piece.

38. (New) A pressure activated valve for medical applications, comprising:

a housing defining a lumen therethrough; and

a flow control membrane disposed across the lumen, the flow control membrane comprising:

a first membrane portion; and

an annular base member stacked upon said first membrane portion such that the thickness of the flow control membrane is increased at a periphery thereof,

wherein the housing includes a membrane retention portion adapted to apply compression force to the periphery of the flow control membrane, and

wherein the first membrane portion includes one or more slits therethrough, the one or more slits opening when subjected to a pressure of at least a predetermined threshold level.